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(54) Title: DYNAMIC MODULARITY IN FLEXIBLE, PERSISTENT AGENTS

(57) Abstract: Apparatus and method for the dynamic deployment of functionality in software agents. The agent which represents a person's identity, is adapted to dock with a dockable module which includes a method means for performing a function. The agent also has an intermodule communication means for mapping a request from a requesting module to the method means in the dockable module. The invention provides efficient dynamic changes of modules in an agent and the capability to decouple modules in such a way that both data exchange and method calls can be executed without prior knowledge of anticipated functionality.

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